REMARKS

The amendments to the Specification correct errors made in the original application regarding the use of trademarked products and trade names. It also corrects the omission of the ATCC deposit number and the omission of the word "between". One amendment adds the "priority claim" to the Specification. This amendment is being added at the time of filing of this patent application. It is recognized by Applicants that the sentence will need to be amended again to add the patent number once U.S. Application 09408,328 issues. No new matter is added. Applicants respectfully request that the amendments to the Specification be entered.

In the Claims, Applicants cancel Claims 1-20 and add new Claims 21-35. Support for new Claims 21-35 are found throughout the Specification starting on page 6. There are four independent claims and a total of fifteen claims.

Applicants authorize that the Commissioner charge all fees due to Deposit Account 19-0134. Applicants also request that all correspondence be directed to the address associated with Customer Number 001095 which is currently as follows:

> Thomas Hoxie Novartis Corporate Intellectual Property One Health Plaza, Building 430 East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Any questions or issues can be directed to the below signed attorney at this address. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No. 37,881

Novartis Corporate Intellectual Property One Health Plaza, Building 430 East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080 (862) 778-7922

Date: Aug. 21, 2003

H:\DATA\Fusobacterium\Con 1\Preliminary amend.doc